

~~SECRET~~

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

FEB 2 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for National Estimates

SUBJECT : Working Group Report on Railroad Transportation
Capabilities of Communist China W/O ATT

1. In reference to your memorandum of 28 December 1953, I am attaching the report of the Working Group of the EIC Subcommittee on Transportation, summarizing their principal areas of disagreement as to the transport capabilities of Chinese Communist railroads in 1952, together with a statement of underlying reasons for the principal differences in capability estimates. Although the EIC has found itself unable to furnish you with as clear and precise an explanation of areas of agreement and disagreement as you requested, its members have accepted this report of the Working Group for transmission to ONE. Each of the members generally support the agency view expressed by his member of the Working Group.

2. It is regrettable that this Working Group has not proved able to reach a greater consensus of views, or at least a narrower range of difference in these estimates. I also should have much preferred a clearer summary statement of the basic differences in approach and in methodology which have led to such widely differing estimates. Most of the Working Group representatives have taken the position that any summarization whatever of their different detailed positions would do violence to the integrity of their respective technical analyses.

3. In essence, therefore, the Working Group has come up with five separate presentations of position - one for each agency. These are presented as five separate appendices, and the body of the report includes a tabular summation of principal differing statistics. A discussion of some of the problems which were considered most troublesome is also included, but without any attempt to analyze or compare the different agencies' positions on any of these issues.

4. The members of the Working Group are indicated on the attached report. They understand that your Office may be calling upon them individually or collectively for further clarification of the respective agency views presented.

DOCUMENT IN THE
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☒ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 5 May 81 REVIEWER: 009256
Attachments

Otto E. Guthe
OTTO E. GUTHE
Chairman

Economic Intelligence Committee

~~SECRET~~